



National Weather Service

Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



January 2003

Location	Date	Time Local/ Standard	Path Length (Miles)	Path Width (Yards)	Number of Persons Killed	Number of Persons Injured	Estimated Damage Property	Estimated Damage Crops	Character of Storm
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CONNECTICUT, Northeast

CTZ002>004

Hartford - Tolland - Windham

03	1400EST	0	0	Winter Storm
04	1100EST			

A powerful winter storm tracked south of New England and dumped heavy snow over northern Connecticut. Totals of 6 to 10 inches were common in Hartford, Tolland, and Windham Counties. Aside from scattered power outages and dozens of minor accidents, little significant impact occurred from the storm since most residents avoided travel. No injuries or damage was directly attributable to the storm.

Officially, the storm total at Bradley International Airport in Windsor Locks was 7.6 inches. Other snowfall totals as reported by trained spotters include 10 inches in Granby and Thompson; 9 inches in Burlington and East Hartford; 8 inches in Wethersfield, West Hartford, Windsor Center, and Killingly; 7 inches in South Windsor, Storrs, and Ashford; and 6 inches in Newington, Glastonbury, Andover, and Pomfret.

MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

MAZ002>012-014

Western Franklin - Eastern Franklin - Northern Worcester - Western Middlesex - Western Essex - Eastern Essex - Western Hampshire - Western Hampden - Eastern Hampshire - Eastern Hampden - Southern Worcester - Southeast Middlesex

03	1400EST	0	0	50K	Winter Storm
04	1100EST				

MAZ007-015>016-019-022 Eastern Essex - Suffolk - Eastern Norfolk - Eastern Plymouth - Barnstable

04	1100EST	0	0	550K	Storm Surge
	1400EST				

A powerful winter storm which tracked south of New England dumped heavy snow on western, central, and northeast Massachusetts and produced significant coastal flooding along the eastern Massachusetts coastline.

As much as 1 to 2 feet of snow fell over a large area, from the east slopes of the Berkshires across Worcester County and into the Merrimack Valley and North Shore communities. Amounts tapered off dramatically from Boston to the South Shore, where only an inch or two of accumulation was reported before the snow changed to rain. Aside from scattered power outages and dozens of minor accidents, the heavy snow had little significant impact on the state, as most residents chose not to travel.

Official storm totals include 14.0 inches at Worcester Airport, 5.0 inches at Blue Hill Observatory in Milton, 0.4 inch at Logan International Airport in Boston, and 0.2 inch at the National Weather Service office in Taunton. Other snowfall totals as reported by trained spotters include 24 inches in Chesterfield and Worthington; 21 inches in Ashfield; 17 inches in Goshen and Greenfield; 16 inches in Tolland, Townsend, and Haverhill; 12 inches in Westfield, North Amherst, Sterling, Shrewsbury, Hopkinton, Billerica, and Bradford; 10 inches in Whately, Wilbraham, Hopedale, Framingham, and Andover; and 8 inches in Douglas and Reading.

The more significant impact of this storm was widespread coastal flooding. A high astronomical tide combined with 15-foot seas to cause flooding along most of the eastern Massachusetts coastline. In Marblehead, the downtown area was closed off after being flooded, and waves swept over the road to Marblehead Neck, shutting it down. The storm surge also shut down sections of Route 129, throwing mud, rock, and a section of boardwalk across the road. In Swampscott, a 60-foot section of sea wall along Blodgett Avenue collapsed, forcing the evacuation of several homes. The Nahant Causeway was closed for almost four hours due to flooding, cutting off access to the peninsula. Damage was most severe in Winthrop. Waves crashed over the sea wall protecting Point Shirley during the midday high tide, inundating streets with up to 5 feet of water and flooding scores of cars and basements. In all, about 50 homes were flooded. In Scituate, another hard hit area, about 40 houses along Turner Road were left without power. Residents estimated that 8 to 10 feet of water flooded Seventh Avenue, requiring evacuation. In Humarock, a narrow strip of land in Scituate that often gets the worst of coastal storms, residents used front-end loaders and backhoes to clear mud and rocks from Central Avenue. The road was closed with some sections flooded with several feet of water. Mounds of rocks, brought in by the tide, were piled as high as 10 feet along the side of the road. In all, as many as 10 roads in Scituate were fully or partly closed during high tide. In Marshfield, several feet of water flooded roads in Brant Rock and police blocked off Hewitt's Point and the esplanade for several hours. Waves crested over sea walls in Plymouth and left several areas submerged in 2 to 3 feet of water. A portion of Route 3A was flooded. Flooding was also reported on Cape Cod in Chatham, but was less severe than in other areas.



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MASSACHUSETTS, Central and East

MAZ022 **Barnstable**
22 **1955EST** **0** **0** **High Wind (G52)**
Pocasset

A wind gust to 60 mph was reported by a trained spotter in Pocasset. There were no reports of damage.

MAZ022 **Barnstable**
23 **2200EST** **0** **0** **Heavy Snow**
24 **0700EST**

Ocean Effect Snow Squalls

An ocean storm passing southeast of Georges Bank created a persistent northeast wind over Cape Cod and Nantucket, resulting in bands of ocean effect snow squalls. Accumulations ranged from 2 to 7 inches, with the greatest amounts on the outer Cape. Travel became difficult on Cape Cod, as the combination of falling snow and gusty winds created near whiteout conditions at times.

Some specific snowfall totals, as reported by trained spotters, include 7 inches in Wellfleet and East Harwich; 6 inches in Eastham and Chatham; 5 inches in Barnstable; 4 inches in Dennis, Orleans, Brewster, and on Nantucket; 3 inches in Osterville and Mashpee; and 2 inches in Marstons Mills and Sandwich.

NEW HAMPSHIRE, Southern

NHZ011>012 **Cheshire - Hillsborough**
03 **1400EST** **0** **0** **Winter Storm**
04 **1100EST**

A powerful winter storm tracked south of New England and dumped heavy snow over southern New Hampshire. Totals of 1 to 2 feet were common in Cheshire and Hillsborough Counties. Aside from scattered power outages and dozens of minor accidents, little significant impact occurred from the storm since most residents avoided travel. No injuries or damage was directly attributable to the storm.

Some snowfall totals from the storm, as reported by trained spotters, include 21 inches in Jaffrey, 18 inches in Franconia, 14 inches in Dublin and Nashua, 12 inches in Manchester and Wilton, and 10 inches in Hudson.

RHODE ISLAND

RIZ001 **Northwest Providence**
03 **1400EST** **0** **0** **Winter Storm**
04 **1100EST**

A powerful winter storm tracked south of New England and dumped heavy snow over northwest Rhode Island. Totals of 5 to 10 inches were common in northwest Providence County. Aside from scattered power outages and dozens of minor accidents, little significant impact occurred from the storm since most residents avoided travel. No injuries or damage was directly attributable to the storm.

Some snowfall totals from the storm, as reported by trained spotters, include 11 inches in Burrillville, 8 inches in North Foster, and 5 inches in Cumberland. Amounts tapered off dramatically farther south, where snow changed to rain. Only 1.5 inches of snow was reported in downtown Providence, and a trace was reported officially at T.F. Green State Airport in Warwick.